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House of Representatives

The House met at 10:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SALAZAR).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

November 30, 2010.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN T. SALAZAR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 30 minutes and each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, limited to 5 minutes.

RATIFY START IMMEDIATELY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) for 1 minute.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues in the Senate to ratify the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty or START immediately because every day we wait to ratify START is one more day that Russia's nuclear arsenal goes uninspected.

When our last nuclear arms treaty with Russia expired last December, so did our ability to inspect their nuclear sites. This means no Americans have inspected Russian nuclear facilities for

almost a year. Despite the urgent need to ratify this vital treaty which also reduces unneeded nuclear stockpiles and builds much-needed confidence with Russia, some members in the other body have continued to stall, putting politics ahead of national security.

START has been through 18 hearings, is endorsed by dozens of foreign policy and defense experts, and passed out of committee with a strong bipartisan majority. Our colleagues on the other side of the aisle claim to be the strongest proponents of national security; ratification of START is an opportunity for them to act on those claims and keep America and our allies safe.

RENEWING AMERICAN EXCEPTIONALISM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, the day after I had the privilege of speaking at one of the storied venues in American public life. The Detroit Economic Club for 75 years has been a place where American leaders of every political persuasion and philosophy have come to talk about the economy of this Nation. I had the real privilege of being able to address that gathering yesterday, and I want to express my appreciation to the organizers and the board for that. But I thought I might reflect for a few minutes this morning on my comments because what I sought to do at the Detroit Economic Club yesterday was really broaden the debate here in Washington, DC.

We live in no ordinary times. Our economy is struggling in the city and on the farm. Unemployment is at a heartbreaking 9.6 percent nationally; 42 million Americans are on food stamps; and America has seen better days. After years of runaway Federal spending, borrowing and bailouts by

both political parties, I believe there is a better way. I believe that we can renew American exceptionalism by returning our national policy to the principles and practices that made this economy and our economy the freest and most prosperous in the history of the world. I believe if we return to the practice of those principles, as I said yesterday in Detroit, that we can restore and rebuild our economy.

Fiscal discipline is where it all begins, though. We have to put our fiscal house in order, and clearly the American people on November 2 sent a deafening message to policymakers here in Washington, DC. that they want a government that lives within their means again. Fortunately, there is no shortage these days of ideas about putting our fiscal house in order: admirable suggestions of the President's Debt Commission that we will learn more about this week; the Republicans' Pledge to America; there are thoughtful proposals and blueprints by Members of Congress in both political parties, and I commend them all.

On my part, I have coauthored legislation to establish a constitutional spending limit amendment. I think it is time that we limited Federal spending to 20 percent of our economy in the Constitution of the United States of America. We have a saying back in Indiana, Mr. Speaker, that good fences make good neighbors. I think we ought to use the Constitution of the United States in the years ahead to put fence lines around spending to give this and future Congresses a clear guideline of just how much of the American economy this government can consume, and to give them an incentive for growth.

But let me say, fiscal discipline alone will not be enough to bring jobs and prosperity back to America. We need an agenda for growth, and that is what brought me to Detroit yesterday. What I described and sought to describe were the building blocks, the traditional

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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